(b) the steps taken to start new Food Processing Industries in the State during the current year;

(c) whether any such proposal is lying with Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Government does not set up Food Processing Industries on its own. Approval of the Ministry of Food Processing Industrie's is also not required for starting a new FPI unit. However, Government has implemented a scheme to provide financial assistance for technology upgradation/modernization/establishment of the food processing industries. Rate of assistance is 25% of the project cost in general areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh and 33.33% of the project cost in difficult areas including Assam subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh. So far assistance has been approved for 26 FPI projects in Assam. During last three years and the current year an amount of Rs. 7.31 crore has been released to different FPI units in Assam.

Displaying ingredients on processed food items

48. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to make it mandatory for the manufacturers of processed food items to mention the details of the ingredients on the labels, including fat content and the techniques used in the manufacture and storage of food items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the notification of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules is going to be notified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) As per the existing Rules under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954, it is mandatory for the manufacturers of processed food items to specify the names of ingredients used in the products in descending

order of their composition by weight or volume, as the case may be. However, Ministry of Health under the PFA Act, 1954 has proposed amendment of PFA Rules, 1955 to display complete nutritional information containing energy value, amounts of protein, carbohydrate, fat, vitamins and minerals, on the label of processed food items and has published a draft notification for inviting suggestions and objections from the public.

Grain processing industries

49. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing financial assistance for setting up/modernization/expansion of grain processing industries which include milling of rice, wheat, pulses and oilseeds to various States, particularly to Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Government has framed and implemented a Plan Scheme for technology upgradation, establishment/modernization of the food processing industries. The rate of assistance is 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% of the project cost subject to maximum of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas. Keeping in view the limited resources and the need to focus on the highly perishable agri produces, financial assistance to rice/flour and pulse milling has been discontinued in respect of the fresh project cases iv.e.f. 1st April 2004. However the FPI project cases received by the SNAs upto 31.03.2004 are eligible for assistance on usual terms and conditions prescribed under the scheme. A statement showing details of financial assistance extended under the scheme to the FPI units including grain-processing units State-wise during the last year and the current year is annexed as per Statement.